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AIL1020

Foundations of Statistics & Probability

Instructor

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Module 02 Contd.

Percentiles



Concept of Percentile

Percentile

A **percentile** is a statistical measure that indicates the **relative standing of a value within a dataset**.

It represents the **percentage of data points that fall below a given value**.

The **p^{th} percentile of a dataset** is the value **below which $p\%$ of the data falls**.

Example

If a student scores in the **80th percentile** on an exam, it means they **performed better than 80% of students but worse than 20%**.

In healthcare, if a baby's weight is in the **90th percentile**, it means the **baby is heavier than 90% of other babies of the same age**.



Concept of Percentile

Quartiles

The p^{th} percentile of a dataset is the value below which $p\%$ of the data falls.

The **25th percentile (Q1)** is the value below which 25% of the data lies.

The **50th percentile (Q2 or median)** is the value below which 50% of the data lies.

The **75th percentile (Q3)** is the value below which 75% of the data lies.

These **quartiles** divide the data into four equal parts, making percentiles useful for understanding the spread and distribution of data.



Concept of Percentile

Percentile

For a dataset with n values sorted in ascending order:

1. Compute the rank index using $i = \frac{p}{100} \times (n + 1)$.
2. If i is an integer, the p th percentile is the value at position i .
3. If i is not an integer, interpolate between the nearest ranked values.

Example: Sorted Dataset

[15, 22, 29, 34, 38, 45, 50, 50, 50, 60, 68, 75, 75, 85, 90, 95]

Quartiles

Example

Data Values
90
32
65
28
45
60
68
85
35
55
78
48
18
52
21
72
37
40
12
25



Quartiles

Example

Sorted Data
12
18
21
25
28
32
35
37
40
45
48
52
55
60
65
68
72
78
85
90



Quartiles

Example

Find Q1, Q2, Q3.

Rank	Sorted Data
1	12
2	18
3	21
4	25
5	28
6	32
7	35
8	37
9	40
10	45
11	48
12	52
13	55
14	60
15	65
16	68
17	72
18	78
19	85
20	90



Quartiles

Example

Find Q1, Q2, Q3.

$n = 20$

Rank	Sorted Data
1	12
2	18
3	21
4	25
5	28
6	32
7	35
8	37
9	40
10	45
11	48
12	52
13	55
14	60
15	65
16	68
17	72
18	78
19	85
20	90

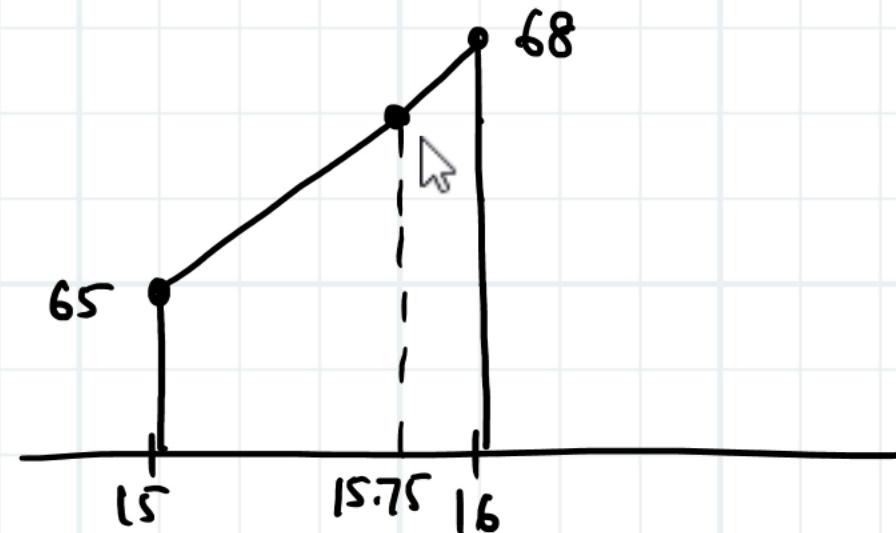
Q1

Q2

Q3

Q3 (75^{th} %ile)

$$Q_3 = \frac{3}{4} \left(\frac{75}{100} (21) \right) = 15.75$$





Quartiles

Different Methods of Quartile Calculation

Method	Formula	Used By	Best for
$n + 1$	$i = \frac{p}{100} \times (n + 1)$	Statistics software (NumPy, R, SPSS, etc.)	Continuous distributions, small datasets
$n - 1$	$i = \frac{p}{100} \times (n - 1) + 1$	Excel, Google Sheets	Large datasets, business applications

Quartiles

Example

Find Q1, Q2, Q3.

Rank	Sorted Data
1	12
2	18
3	21
4	25
5	28
6	32
7	35
8	37
9	40
10	45
11	48
12	52
13	55
14	60
15	65
16	68
17	72
18	78
19	85
20	90

On Google Sheets/Excel

PERCENTILE()

$$i = \frac{p}{100} \times (n - 1) + 1$$



Recap

Percentile represents the percentage of data points **that fall below a given value.**

Quartiles (Q1, Q2, Q3)

Methods of quartile calculation

